

## **REMARKS**

The Official Action dated 28 September 2004 has been carefully considered, along with cited references, applicable sections of the Patent Act, Patent Rules.

The disclosure is objected to because of several informalities.

In response, the specification and the abstract have been amended according to the Examiner's suggestions.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 1,789,838 to Powell.

Claims 5 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Powell in view of U.S. Patent 4,946,127 to Kulaga.

However, the Examiner has kindly indicated that claims 6 and 7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, claim 7 which is indicated to be allowable has been deleted, and has been included into claim 1.

Claims 2, 5, 8 are dependent on the amended claim 1.

Claims 3 and 4 are dependent on claim 2.

Claim 6 which is indicated to be allowable has been written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 9 is dependent on claim 8.

Accordingly, claims 1-6 and 8-9 would appear to be allowable, and early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is accordingly most respectfully solicited.

Courtesy and cooperation of Examiner MORRISON are appreciated.

respectfully submitted,

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